Special Issue

Cell Type- and Context-Specific Roles and Regulation of Notch Signaling

Message from the Guest Editor

Notch signaling is an evolutionarily conserved intercellular signaling mechanism that plays important roles in embryonic development and adult homeostasis of animals and in human disease. The Notch pathway is used so broadly that it is difficult to identify cell types or developmental processes that are not regulated by Notch signaling. Moreover, a growing list of human diseases affecting multiple organ systems have been identified that are either caused by mutations in the Notch pathway components or whose pathogenesis and/or progression are affected by alterations in the level of Notch pathway activity. Notably, mutations in each Notch pathway receptor/ligand result in specific phenotypes that are at least partially non-overlapping with the mutant phenotypes of other pathway components. In line with the above-mentioned observations, the rather simple design of the Notch pathway and the limited number of its core components, multiple regulatory mechanisms exist to make the Notch pathway such a versatile signaling pathway. This special issue intends to provide examples of exciting work on such regulatory mechanisms.

Guest Editor

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